**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-5. (cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a combination of a therapeutically effective amount for reducing insulin resistance of a hepatic glutathione increasing compound and a therapeutically effective amount for reducing insulin resistance of a hepatic nitric oxide-increasing compound.

7. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising ~~at least one of~~ nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxolate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcystein and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, ~~or~~ nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine, or mixtures thereof.

8. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.

9. (Previously Presented) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient having lower than normal hepatic glutathione levels, said method comprising: selecting a patient suffering from insulin resistance; determining if hepatic glutathione levels are lower than normal in the patient; and administering the composition of claim 6.

10. (Previously Presented) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient comprising administering the composition of claim 6.

11. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 6 further comprising ~~a pharmaceutically acceptable liver-targeting substance~~ albumin, liposomes, or bile salts.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the insulin resistance is HISS-dependent insulin resistance (HDIR).

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the hepatic glutathione-increasing compound administered causes an increase in hepatic glutathione synthesis.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the glutathione-increasing compound ~~is at least one of~~ comprises N-acetylcysteine, cysteine esters, L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxolate (OTC), gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, glutathione ethyl ester, glutathione isopropyl ester, lipoic acid, cystine, cysteine, methionine, ~~and~~ S-adenosylmethionine (SAMe), or mixtures thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the nitric oxide-increasing compound comprises ~~is at least one of~~ SIN-1, molsidamine, nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxol- ate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcystein and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, ~~or~~ nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine, or mixtures thereof.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the composition is administered orally.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the composition is administered by intravenous injection.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the composition is 8-bromo-cGMP.

19-20. (cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the compound which increases nitric oxide is SIN-1.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the compound which increases hepatic NO is molsidamine.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising administering a pharmaceutically acceptable anti-oxidant.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the patient suffers from at least one of non-insulin dependent diabetes, essential hypertension, metabolic obesity, chronic liver disease, fetal alcohol effects, old age and a chronic inflammatory disease.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the patient is a human.

26-28. (cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.

30. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 7 further comprising ~~a pharmaceutically acceptable liver-targeting substance~~ albumin, liposomes, or bile salts.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein administering the composition improves glucose uptake in said patient.